

Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO TURKS ON VAROSHA

REF: STATE 161686

1. DCM CALLED ON MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR GREEK AND CYPRUS AFFAIRS TURGUT TULUMEN JUNE 27 TO DELIVER DEMARCHE ALONG LINES OF PARAGRAPHS FOUR AND FIVE OF REFTEL. AFTER READING THE INFORMAL PAPER, TULUMEN STATED FLATLY THAT THE IDEA OF UN ADMINISTRATION OF VAROSHA IS UNACCEPTABLE TO TURKEY. TULUMEN SAID THAT TO HAND OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF VAROSHA TO THE UN WOULD PREJUDICE THE FINAL SETTLEMENT. EVEN THE INFORMAL PAPER, HE SAID, WAS INCONSISTENT ON THIS POINT: ON THE ONE HAND WE SAID THE UN ADMINISTRATION WOULD NOT PREJUDICE A FINAL SETTLEMENT, WHILE IN THE FINAL PARAGRAPH WE SAID THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT INHABITANTS OF VAROSHA SHOULD ENJOY A GOVERNMENT OF THEIR OWN

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CHOOSING. TULUMEN SAID HE WOULD CIRCULATE THE PAPER, BUT THAT WE SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF TURKEY REJECTED THE "MAIN IDEA", I.E., UN ADMINISTRATION.

2. WE REPEATED OUR REASONING, STRESSING AN ARGUMENT ADVANCED LAST WEEK BY ED DILLERY DURING HIS VISIT HERE THAT THE TURKISH "SIGNAL" OF ITS INTENTIONS

REGARDING VAROSHA HAS NOT GOTTEN THROUGH TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. EVEN THOUGH WE AGREE THAT TURKEY HAS MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT VAROSHA IS NEGOTIABLE -- WE MIGHT EVEN SAY RETURNABLE -- THE REST OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, HAS NOT GOTTEN THIS MESSAGE. THE US BELIEVES THAT UN ADMINISTRATION IS AN ESSENTIAL IDEA IF THE GREEKS ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO THE BARGAINING TABLE.

3. TULUMEN RESPONDED RATHER HEATEDLY THAT IT WAS "USELESS" TO DISCUSS THIS IDEA FURTHER UNLESS THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE WILLING TO START THE TALKS. THIS WAS AT LEAST THE THIRD SUCH PAPER OF THIS SORT WE HAD PREPARED. TURKEY HAS "LOST CONFIDENCE" IN THE US SINCE WE KEEP ASKING TURKEY TO TAKE STEPS BUT THEN DO NOT DELIVER OUR PART OF THE BARGAIN. HE POINTED OUT THAT, REGARDING VAROSHA, CYPRIOT FONMIN ROLANDIS HAD TOLD CERTAIN EUROPEANS THAT EVEN IF THE TURKS HANDED BACK ALL OF VAROSHA THE GOC WOULD NOT RESUME THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. TULUMEN SAID THAT TURKEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CERTAIN ASSURANCES. INVITED TO SPELL OUT WHAT ASSURANCES THESE MIGHT BE, HE CHANGED THE SUBJECT.

4. IN CLOSING WE AGAIN URGED THAT TURKEY STUDY CAREFULLY OUR IDEA BEFORE REPLYING. WE STRESSED THAT EVEN IF GREEK CYPRIOTS DID NOT COME TO BARGAINING TABLE, A TURK CYPRIOT PROPOSAL ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED WOULD HELP

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THE TURK CYPRIOT POSITION IN CONGRESS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. (TULUMEN ASKED: "WOULD THIS HELP GET EMBARGO LIFTED?" DCM SAID "YES.") WE SAID THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO SEEK A MEETING WITH THE PRIMIN AND THAT VAROSHA WOULD BE ONE OF THE MATTERS HE WOULD RAISE. WE INDICATED THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD SOUGHT CLARIFICATION OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS, SO THAT THE MEETING WOULD PROBABLY NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL THE LATTER PART OF THE WEEK.

5. COMMENT: DENKTASH IS IN ANKARA BRIEFLY TODAY TO TALK WITH ECEVIT BEFORE FLYING BACK TO CYPRUS. "HURRIYET" JUNE 26 CARRIED AN INTERVIEW IN WHICH DENKTASH WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT "EVEN IF WE GIVE ALL OF FAMAGUSTA BACK TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, IN THE PRESENT SITUATION THEY WOULD NOT BEGIN THE TALKS."

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